

Well, Presidents have vetoed bills throughout history, Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, and Roosevelt. But what is different this time is not that the President vetoes bills but that this is the first Congress and only one House of this Congress because Senator DOLE is not going along that says, if the President does not sign every bill we pass, we are shutting down the Government. That is a disgrace. It is a disgrace to all Americans, particularly those affected by this horrible shut-down.

SPEAKING OF DOUBLESPEAK

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, speaking of Orwellian doublespeak, to hear my friends from New York talk about Washington and Jefferson and Lincoln and mention the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in the same breath is truly astounding.

My colleagues, once you get past the politics of victimization, the debate is about this: Why is \$12 trillion over the next 7 years not enough? Why should the children being born today pay over \$185,000 in interest on the debt if we fail to act? My friend from New York indicts this majority in Congress because he would rather go back to business as usual, to the 40 years that gave us this mind-boggling debt, to just continuing on with spend and spend and tax and spend some more.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. I am proud to stand up for the people.

THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN, DAY 20

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today is day 20 of the Government shutdown. The fault lies entirely with the House Republican leadership.

Yesterday there was an opportunity or there would have been an opportunity because the Senate sent over a continuing resolution to allow the Government to operate once again. But Speaker GINGRICH and the House Republican leadership would not bring the resolution up. There are 198 Democrats on our side that are prepared to vote to keep the Government operating. We only need 20 Republicans in order to accomplish the goal of reaching 218 and opening up this Government again.

My understanding is that in the House Republican conference there are enough votes to do that. But the Speaker, Speaker GINGRICH, and the House Republican leadership will not allow a vote to come to the floor. Instead, we understand today they want to bring up a resolution that would allow them to recess this House for 2 or

3 weeks until January 23 and the Government would be shut down that entire time. I say no to that motion to recess. Let us stay here and let us get this Government going again.

REPUBLICANS DO NOT HOLD THE KEYS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the President seems to think that House Republicans are keeping the Government shut down. I must say, as a House Republican that is news to me.

You see the Government's front door has got a big old deadbolt on it. Republicans managed to open the door when we passed the Balanced Budget Act of 1995. President Clinton slammed the door shut and locked it tight when he vetoed the Balanced Budget Act.

Now, Mr. Speaker, here is my keychain. None of my keys will open the Government. I checked around with some of my colleagues. None of their keys will open the Government either. As it turns out, when the President vetoed the Balanced Budget Act, he did not just shut the door, he changed the lock.

Mr. Speaker, we do not hold the keys. The President does. There is only one way the Government is going to open back up, and that is when the President of the United States agrees to a plan that balances the budget in 7 years and uses honest numbers.

KUWAIT AND CHINA

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in 1991, America went to war. America went to the front lines to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. America spent over \$75 billion. American troops died in the gulf. American troops still suffer from that war disease.

After all that, ladies and gentlemen, let us talk some business. Kuwait just awarded China, that is right, China, a \$391 million contract to build two oil gathering projects. Now, if that is not enough to change the oil filter, folks, Kuwait did not even consider American bids. Think about it. After good old Uncle Sam saved their assets, put our young people's lives on the lines, quoting news reports, Kuwait did not even consider American bids. Beam me up. With a foreign policy like this, it is a wonder we have any budget to balance.

TRAVELGATE

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, for 2 long years, Mr. Speaker, a career public

servant has been targeted, smeared, and ultimately prosecuted, all the news suggested, as part of a political cover-up designed to justify the Travelgate firings and the transfer of White House business to political cronies. Thank God for the jury system which acquitted Billy Dale in just 2 hours. But chilling facts continue to emerge.

Today the AP reports a newly released memo in which a high administration official explained the origins of this Orwellian case by saying, and I quote, "We knew that there would be hell to pay if we failed to take swift and decisive action in conformity with the First Lady's wishes." That is shocking, and I will tell my colleagues, regardless of how powerful the person who ordered it, no matter how high in the Clinton administration, if Federal law enforcement agencies were turned against a career public servant as part of a political coverup, there ought to be, and I quote, "hell to pay" on the part of all those responsible.

REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Republicans, this is your Government shutdown, and it is now item No. 11 of the Contract With America. It is your baby and you are going to have to defend it. Good luck.

It is unconscionable to go again on recess without reopening the Government. What you are forgetting is that you are not just hurting Federal employees. You are hurting average Americans, small businesses. Do not hide behind the balanced budget rhetoric. Who is President Clinton expected to negotiate with? Senator DOLE, who is being shellacked already by the right wing? Senate Republicans who appear to be responsible? Or GINGRICH and House Republicans who want a hard line?

Mr. Speaker, we cannot negotiate with five Republican parties. Republicans, get your act together. This institution is not looking good these days. We are all going to have to suffer unless we get these games stopped.

GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE REOPENED

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I understand there is a resolution to allow the Congress to recess until January 23. I personally think we should reopen the Government, but under no circumstances should the Congress leave town while the Government is shut down. The soldiers in Bosnia are not leaving Bosnia.

And do not clap, because I do not agree with you on the other side of the